

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The office action of December 30, 2005 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

The indication that claims 4-7 are allowable if rewritten in independent form is appreciated. Accordingly, claims 4, 5, and 6 have been rewritten in independent form.

Claims 9-20 stand newly rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, and claims 8-20 stand newly rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The term "wortle" has been deleted from the claims and replaced with the term "single panels." The term "single panel" is applied to all types of lumber products including laminated veneer lumber (LVL) and particleboard.

Claims 1-3 remain rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Ellis (U.S. Patent 1,664,601.) Claims 1-2 remain rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Mullen (U.S. Patent 6,749,861). Claims 1 and 3 have been canceled and claim 2 has been amended to depend from claim 6. These rejections are moot and withdrawal thereof is requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, withdrawal of the rejection and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is requested.

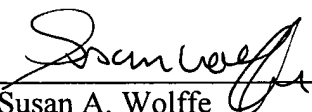
It is believed that no fee is due for filing this Amendment. However, if there is a fee, please debit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733 accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

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By:


Susan A. Wolfe
Registration No. 33,568

1001 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597
Tel: (202) 824-3000
Fax: (202) 824-3001